WIRELESS COMMUNICATION ENABLED METER AND NETWORK

Abstract of the Disclosure

A meter enabled for wireless communication and a wireless communication network are disclosed. A meter enabled for wireless communication comprises a metering device, a wireless communication system and an interface between the two. Meter data can be read, and the meter can be controlled via communication with a wireless network using, *e.g.*, the Bluetooth™ protocol A self-configuring wireless network is also disclosed. The wireless network includes a number of vnodes, and one or more VGATES. The vnodes are devices that are enabled for wireless communication using, *e.g.*, the Bluetooth™ protocol. Vnodes are operative to form *ad hoc* piconet connections. The one or more VGATES comprise computer network gateways that are enabled for wireless communication using, *e.g.*, the Bluetooth™ protocol. Thus, the VGATES enable the wireless array of vnodes to communicate with a private or public computer network to transmit data or receive commands. The network may also communicate with a VNOC system. VNOC is a universal communications adapter that enables the wireless array of vnodes to communicate (either directly or through a VGATE) with a central control facility via various wireless or wired communication media.